

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031

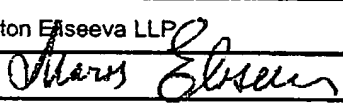
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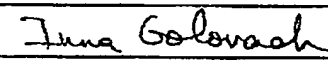
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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/804,913 | |
| | Filing Date | March 19, 2004 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Steve Barhorst | |
| | Art Unit | 1725 | |
| | Examiner Name | Tran, Len | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 14 | Attorney Docket Number | 22176.23 (ITW-14186) |

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| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
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| Remarks | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | |
| Firm Name | Houston Eliseeva LLP | |
| Signature |  | |
| Printed name | Maria Eliseeva | |
| Date | September 19, 2006 | Reg. No. 43,328 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | |
|---|---|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: | |
| Signature |  |
| Typed or printed name | Inna Golovach |
| Date | September 19, 2006 |

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|---------------|---|------------------|-----------|
| In Re: | Steve Barhorst et al. | Confirmation No: | 8366 |
| Serial No: | 10/804,913 | Group: | 1725 |
| Filed: | March 19, 2004 | Examiner: | Tran, Len |
| For: | Metal-Core Gas Metal Arc Welding of Ferrous Steels with Noble Gas Shielding | | |
| Customer No.: | 29127 | | |

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Attorney Docket No. | 22176.23 |
|------------------------|----------|

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the pending Office Action, mailed June 19, 2006 (Paper No. 20060613), please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

-amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims in section a);

Finally, reconsideration is requested in view of the remarks set forth in section b).